From: The IACP
To: Hennessy, Vicki (SHF)
Subject: IACP"s The Lead: Massachusetts Governor Urges Police Departments To Boost Reporting Of Hate Crimes.
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Greetings Vicki Hennessy

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

POLICING & POLICY

Massachusetts Governor Urges Police Departments To Boost Reporting Of Hate Crimes.

The AP (11/26) reports that Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker "says the state will create a new website to track reports of hate crimes." Baker on Monday "also asked police departments across Massachusetts to designate at least one officer to coordinate the response to hate crimes within their communities." The officers "would be known as civil rights officers and be responsible for reporting criminal acts that appear to be motivated by bias to the state website." Baker "made that request in a letter to Massachusetts police chiefs following recommendations made by a hate crimes task force that began meeting about a year ago."

State House News Service (MA) (11/26, Young, Subscription Publication) reports that Baker "said the role of the suggested 'civil rights officers' would be to 'serve as a community liaison and to participate in appropriate community outreach, to review incident reports for potential hate crimes, and to serve as a resource for your agency on any issues related to hate crimes.'" Baker "also encouraged departments to use the National Incident Based Reporting System as the foremost place to report hate crimes to state and federal authorities," and "he wants police agencies to consider adopting the International Association of Chiefs of Police Model Policy on hate crimes."

High Court Weighs Free Speech, Police Powers.

The New York Times (11/26, Liptak) reports the Supreme Court on Monday considered "whether to allow lawsuits claiming abuse of police power in retaliation for exercising free speech rights." The case "rose from an encounter at the Arctic Man ski and snowmobile event in the remote Hoodoo Mountains of interior Alaska." Plaintiff Russell P. Bartlett "was arrested after yelling at police officers and refusing to answer questions. Afterward, Mr. Bartlett said, one officer told him, 'Bet you wish you would have talked to me now.'" "Bartlett sued, saying he had been arrested for exercising his First Amendment rights." The case "was the court's third attempt to answer the thorny question of whether the existence of probable cause was always enough to defeat a lawsuit claiming retaliatory arrest."

CRIME & DRUGS

Driver Accused Of Targeting People Of The Jewish Faith In California.

KCAL-TV Los Angeles (11/26) reports on its website that police are investigating an incident in which "some people in a Hancock Park [CA] neighborhood said a driver targeted them because they are Jewish," as a hate crime. The suspect, Mohammed Mohammed, "was arrested on charges of assault with a deadly weapon."

FBI Asking For Public's Help In Missing 13-Year-Old North Carolina Girl Case.

In a brief piece, ABC World News Tonight (11/26, story 13, 0:20, Muir) reported on "the desperate search for a missing girl in Lumberton, North Carolina. Thirteen-year-old Hania Aguilar was taken from in front of her home while waiting to go to school

three weeks ago now. The FBI is now asking the public to take a close look at her sneakers, white Adidas with colorful stitching on the heel. They hope it sparks new leads."

Officials So Far Have Found "No Similarities" In North Carolina, Wisconsin Missing Girl Cases. The Appleton (WI) Post-Crescent (11/26) reports the Nov. 5 kidnapping of 13-year-old Hania Aguilar in Lumberton, North Carolina, "drew a quick response from local, state and federal authorities." It "also caught the attention of Barron County Sheriff Chris Fitzgerald and investigators looking into the disappearance of Jayme Closs," the 13-year-old Wisconsin girl who vanished early Oct. 15. Fitzgerald "told USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin that law enforcement officials have looked into the North Carolina abduction to see if the cases might be related." Fitzgerald is quoted saying, "At this time, there are no similarities in the cases." But "looking into cases with any possible connections is part of the process, he said." In Jayme Closs's case, "Fitzgerald said agents from the FBI and the Wisconsin Department of Criminal Investigation are still working extensively to find Jayme."

DUI Arrest Leads New York Police Officers To Illegal Weapons Trove.

The New York Post (11/26, Fonrouge, Musumeci) reports, "Police uncovered a cache of illegal weapons from a man's Upper West Side home after he drunkenly boasted about the stash when busted for erratic driving, cops said Monday." Carlos Costas, 34, "had been stopped by cops after an officer spotted him driving a 1996 red Honda minivan erratically around 1 p.m. Saturday at the intersection of Columbus Avenue and West 87th Street near his home, cops said," and "during the stop, Costas showed signs of being under the influence, and he was placed under arrest, authorities said." While in custody, Costas "was overheard by cops making references to having multiple illegal guns and that he had been fighting with his 33-year-old girlfriend, whom Costas lives with in a third-floor apartment at 59 W. 87th St., police said," and "the cops then sent officers to conduct a wellness check at the address, where a search warrant was executed." Inside the residence, "police found the weapons, which included a defaced .38-caliber black Rossi revolver, a Muscle Man stun gun, two long-range Airsoft firearms, a BB gun, more than 150 rounds of ammunition and over a dozen knives."

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Man Confesses To More Than 90 Murders, Investigators Say.

The New York Times (11/26, Williams) reports Samuel Little, 78, "has confessed to more than 90 murders, investigators say, stretching back almost half a century." Little "already is serving three life sentences for the murders of three Los Angeles women during the 1980s," but the authorities "suspect him of killing women in at least 14 states." Investigators "say they have established Mr. Little's ties to about 30 of the murders so far, and have little reason to doubt his confessions." More than "a dozen local investigators, along with the F.B.I., have flocked to Texas to speak to Mr. Little in person." Ector County, Texas, DA Bobby Bland, is quoted saying, "By the time we are done, we anticipate that Samuel Little will be confirmed as one of the most prolific serial killers in American history."

The IACP, in partnership with COPS Office, has updated the Discover Policing website to include information about careers in law enforcement, job postings, and how community members can get involved with your local law enforcement agency. Check out the website at www.discoverpolicing.org.

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TECHNOLOGY

Advances In DNA Technology Lead To Arrest In New York Murder Case.

Newsday (NY) (11/26, DeStefano) reports, "Two days before Christmas in 2009, Cynthia Souser, a 39-year-old beautician,

was found bludgeoned to death in her apartment in the Claremont Village section of the Bronx." On Monday, "nearly eight years after Souser's killing, investigators announced the indictment of her former boyfriend for the murder," and "his arrest was made possible, they said, due...to advances in DNA technology." According to Newsday, "It turned out that the suspect, Robert Hopkins, 37, had left DNA on a cup he had used to drink while in jail on other charges, law enforcement officials stated," and "it matched DNA found under one of Souser's fingernails, authorities said."

NATIONAL SECURITY

Twin Brothers Plead To Conspiracy, Bomb-Making Charges.

The New York Times (11/26, Weiser) reports Christian Toro, a former schoolteacher, and his twin brother, Tyler Toro, "pleaded guilty on Monday to federal conspiracy and bomb-making charges, admitting in court that they had stockpiled explosive material in their Bronx apartment." However, "the brothers' motive for building a bomb and what their target might have been remained unclear." The Times adds that although they "did not appear to be inspired by international terrorist groups like the Islamic State...the government has asserted that the threat the men posed was real."

Mother Of Failed UK Bomber Said He Was "Easy Target" For Radicalization.

BBC News Online (UK) (11/26) reports, "A failed suicide bomber who attempted to blow up a restaurant in 2008 was an 'easy target' for radicalisation, his mother has told an inquest." Mohammed Saeed Alim, "born Nicky Reilly, from Plymouth, converted to Islam before the planned attack on the Giraffe restaurant in Exeter, Devon." BBC News adds, "He was jailed in 2009 and found dead in HMP Manchester in 2016." and "at the hearing in Heywood, Kim Reilly said her son had Asperger's syndrome, was bullied and had self-harmed." Reilly, "who admitted attempted murder and preparing an act of terrorism, was sentenced to life in prison, to serve a minimum of 18 years."

ALSO IN THE NEWS

Hillsborough, North Carolina Police Department Warns Against Giving Toy Guns As Holiday Presents.

Yahoo! News (11/26, Justich) reports, "People are officially preparing for the holidays and all the gift giving that comes with the season," so "one police department in North Carolina is making sure that families can 'avoid tragedy' by not purchasing a specific type of gift for their children – a toy gun." Yahoo! News adds, "In a PSA posted to the Hillsborough Police Department's Facebook page, officers warn people about the gift that can quickly become controversial and even fatal," and "with side-by-side pictures of an airsoft replica gun (an air gun used in so-called airsoft sports) and a real handgun, it becomes evident that the two aren't dissimilar." According to Yahoo! News, "in terms of how to handle either kind, the department's message is clear: Any gun should be treated as real." Lt. Andy Simmons said "he and fellow officers were 'taken aback' by the realness of the airsoft replica gun that they found in stores just last week."

MONDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- **Burlington, North Carolina Police Aim To Serve Mentally Ill Persons.**
- **NYTimes A1: Looser Marijuana Laws Making Older Narcotics Dogs Less Useful.**
- **Law Enforcement Using Devices To Unlock Cellphones Of Criminal Suspects.**
- **Unsealed Court Documents Reveal Boston Marathon Bomber's Friend Offered Testimony On 2011 Murders.**

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